

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2015

LCO No. 8063



Offered by:

SEN. FASANO, 34th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 593

File No. 293

Cal. No. 226

(As Amended)

"AN ACT CONCERNING SEVERE MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL IMPAIRMENT AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE."

- 1 Strike section 2 in its entirety and substitute the following in lieu
- 2 thereof:
- 3 "Sec. 2. Section 31-294j of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- 5 (a) For the purpose of adjudication of claims for payment of benefits
- 6 under the provisions of this chapter, a uniformed member of a paid
- 7 municipal or volunteer fire department, a regular member of a paid
- 8 municipal police department, a constable, as defined in section 31-294i,
- 9 or a member of a volunteer ambulance service shall be eligible for such
- 10 benefits for any disease arising out of and in the course of
- 11 employment, including, but not limited to, hepatitis, meningococcal
- 12 meningitis, tuberculosis, Kahler's Disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma,
- and prostate or testicular cancer that results in death or temporary or

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14 permanent total or partial disability.

15 (b) (1) Notwithstanding any provisions of the general statutes, for 16 the purpose of adjudication of claims for payment of benefits under 17 the provisions of this chapter, a uniformed member of a paid fire department, a certified interior firefighter belonging to a volunteer fire 18 19 department or a uniformed member of the Department of Emergency 20 Services and Public Protection Fire and Explosion Unit assigned to investigate arson, shall be eligible for such benefits for the following 21 22 types of cancers arising out of and in the course of employment: Kahler's Disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma or any condition of cancer 23 24 affecting the brain, skin, digestive system, endocrine system, 25 respiratory system, lymphatic system, reproductive system, urinary 26 system or hematological system that results in death or temporary or 27 permanent total or partial disability. Such cancer shall be presumed to have been suffered in the line of duty as a result of the inhalation, 28 29 absorption or ingestion of noxious fumes or poisonous gases, unless the contrary be shown by a preponderance of the evidence, provided 30 (A) such uniformed member of a paid fire department, certified 31 32 interior firefighter belonging to a volunteer fire department or 33 uniformed member of the Department of Emergency Services and 34 Public Protection Fire and Explosion Unit assigned to investigate arson 35 successfully passed a physical examination upon entry into such 36 service, or subsequent to entry, as the case may be, that failed to reveal any evidence of such cancer, (B) (i) such uniformed member has 37 38 worked for not less than five years at a paid fire department or the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Fire and 39 40 Explosion Unit assigned to investigate arson, or (ii) such certified interior firefighter belonging to a volunteer fire department has 41 42 worked for not less than fifteen years at such fire department, at the 43 time such cancer is discovered, or should have been discovered, (C) 44 such cancer is one that is known to result from exposure to heat, 45 radiation or a known or suspected carcinogen as determined by the International Agency for Research on Cancer or the National 46 47 Toxicology Program of the United States Department of Health and sSB 593 Amendment

48 Human Services, and (D) such uniformed member of a paid fire

- 49 department, certified interior firefighter belonging to a volunteer fire
- 50 <u>department or uniformed member of the Department of Emergency</u>
- 51 <u>Services and Public Protection Fire and Explosion Unit assigned to</u>
- 52 investigate arson has no family medical history or genetic makeup that
- 53 tends to demonstrate that the individual was more likely than not to
- 54 <u>develop one of the types of cancers listed in this subdivision.</u>
- 55 (2) Any individual who is no longer actively serving as a uniformed
- 56 member of a paid fire department, a certified interior firefighter
- 57 <u>belonging to a volunteer fire department or a uniformed member of</u>
- 58 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Fire and
- 59 Explosion Unit assigned to investigate arson, but who otherwise
- 60 would be eligible for such benefits pursuant to the provisions of
- 61 <u>subdivision (1) of this subsection, may apply for such benefits not</u>
- 62 more than five years from the date such individual last served with
- 63 such paid fire department, volunteer fire department or the
- 64 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Fire and
- Explosion Unit assigned to investigate arson.
- 66 (3) Any uniformed member of a paid fire department, certified
- 67 <u>interior firefighter belonging to a volunteer fire department or</u>
- 68 <u>uniformed member of the Department of Emergency Services and</u>
- 69 <u>Public Protection Fire and Explosion Unit assigned to investigate arson</u>
- or individual applying for benefits pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of
- 71 this subsection shall be required to submit to annual physical
- 72 <u>examinations as a condition of receiving such benefits, the results of</u>
- 73 which shall be reported to such paid fire department, volunteer fire
- 74 <u>department or the Department of Emergency Services and Public</u>
- 75 <u>Protection Fire and Explosion Unit.</u>
- 76 (4) No uniformed member of a paid fire department, certified
- 77 <u>interior firefighter belonging to a volunteer fire department or</u>
- 78 uniformed member of the Department of Emergency Services and
- 79 Public Protection Fire and Explosion Unit assigned to investigate arson
- 80 shall be eligible for such benefits pursuant to the provisions of

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subdivision (1) of this subsection if it is proven that such uniformed member or certified interior firefighter has smoked any cigarettes, as defined in section 12-285, or otherwise used any tobacco products, as defined in section 12-330a, that are found to have caused such incapacity."